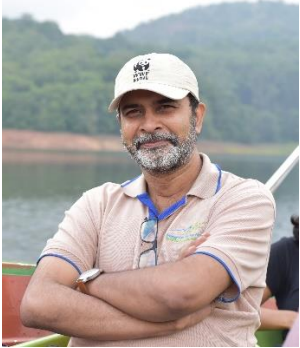


## FACULTY PROFILE



### Dr. Rajeev Raghavan

Assistant Professor (Fish Taxonomy)

Ph.D (Chinese Academy of Sciences)

Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation



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Rajeev's academic training and research background is in aquatic biology, fisheries and conservation. His team studies tropical aquatic biodiversity focusing on the systematics, molecular ecology and biogeography of freshwater fish, and on the assessment and monitoring of inland fisheries.

Rajeev is currently the South Asia Chair of the IUCN Freshwater Fish Specialist Group (FFSG), and the IUCN Freshwater Fish Red List Authority Coordinator for the continents of Asia and Oceania. Together with colleagues, Rajeev has been in the forefront of documenting the aquatic biodiversity (including subterranean and groundwater biodiversity) on the Indian subcontinent, and over the years have described 21 new species, three new genera, and two new families of freshwater fish, and a new genus of blind subterranean shrimp. Some of these discoveries have received worldwide media coverage and attention – for example, the world's first subterranean snakehead fish - *Aenigmachanna gollum*, and the world's largest cavefish *Neolissochilus pnar*.

During his career, Rajeev has received prestigious fellowships from the Erasmus Mundus consortium (three times), Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), BoF (Government of Flanders, Belgium), SSHN (Scientific High Level Visiting Fellowship of the Embassy of France), and has generated funding from various international conservation agencies/organizations for his work on the freshwater fishes of the Western Ghats Biodiversity Hotspot. This research has resulted in an extremely productive publication record, with more than 200 papers in the peer-reviewed literature (>3400 citations; h-index of 33) including in high-impact scientific journals including *Lancet Planetary Health*, *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, and *Global Change Biology*. Rajeev has also been listed in the 'Elsevier-Scopus Top 2% Scientists of the World' continuously since the year 2020.

In July 2023, he was awarded the 'Fisheries Society of British Isles (FSBI) Medal, for exceptional contributions to fish biology and fisheries science, becoming the first awardee from Asia.

## **Teaching:**

- ❖ Taxonomy and systematics of fishes
- ❖ Aquatic biodiversity conservation
- ❖ Modern techniques in fish biology
- ❖ Fish biodiversity and biogeography

## **Research Areas:**

- Molecular ecology
- Groundwater and subterranean biodiversity
- Assessment and monitoring of inland fisheries
- Phylogenetics and evolutionary biogeography
- Extinction risk and conservation

## **Key Management Roles:**

- Faculty in-charge of KUFOS Public Aquarium and Museum
- Faculty/Staff Editor of KUFOS University Magazine
- Member of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
- Member of the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC)

## **Publications:**

- Total Publications: 208; [Google Scholar](#) (for complete list of publications)
- [Research Gate](#)

## **Awards & Achievements:**

- FSBI Medal 20223 – Fisheries Society of British Isles
- SSHN 2024 – Scientific High Level Visiting Fellowship – Embassy of France
- Elsevier- Scopus World Top 2% Scientists (2020, 2021, 2022)

- Erasmus Mundus Visiting Scholar (Central European University, Hungary) – 2013 and 2015
- Erasmus Mundus Visiting Scholar (Christian Albrecht University, Kiel, Germany) – 2015
- Netherlands Fellowship Program (NUFFIC, Government of Netherlands) - 2005

**Ongoing Projects:**

- Population demography and risk assessment of invasive south American Armoured Catfish in the Indian freshwater systems: a way forward for sustainable native fish diversity – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) – Co Investigator

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